

# Gamification as Motivation to Engage in location-based Public Participation?

**Sarah-Kristin Thiel, Peter Fröhlich**



# Public Participation



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# Public e-Participation





STADTMACHER. VON IDEEN ZU PROJEKTEN

STADA HUGMYNDA

Request Bike Parking

VILJANDI Maja

Kontakt

VILJANDI LOKKA KONTAKTID

SUST

Retail Debate

You have made the decision

CDOT Request Bike Parking

Request Bike Parking

Dr. Angela Merkel

direktzu

WhatDoTheyKnow

Get answers from the government and public sector

Browse 332,886 requests to 17,071 authorities

Bürgerhaushalt Lichtenberg

Wir rechnen mit Ihnen

Parkvorgabe statt Parkplatz?

Verbetterdebuurt

Welkom bij Verbetterdebuurt!

Dit is de buurt

Diskutiere mit - Nextsuisse Zukunftsatlas erschienen!

Zukunftsatlas

Diskutiere mit - Nextsuisse Zukunftsatlas erschienen!

How would you spend SF's transportation dollars?

Be the City's Budget Czar for a Day!

Total amount of dollars

What Matters Health

Your Community. Your Future. Your Move.

Healthy Neighborhoods = Healthy People

VISION ZERO

Law Enforcement

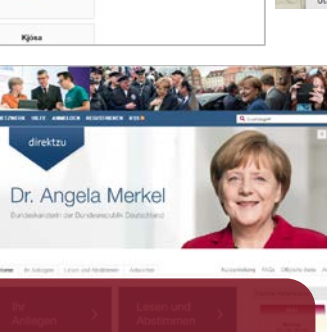
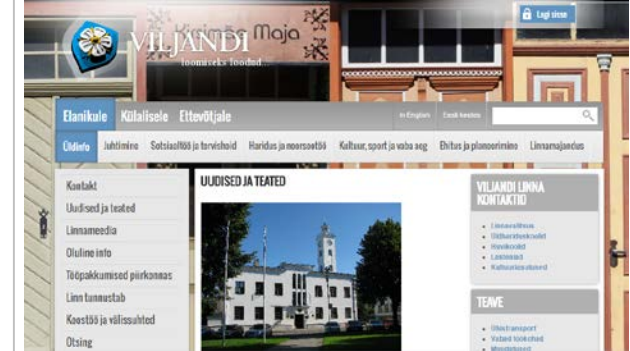
Zoom in and select an intersection.

DEBATE

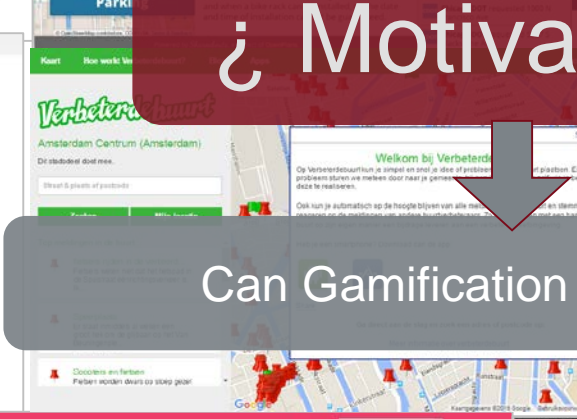
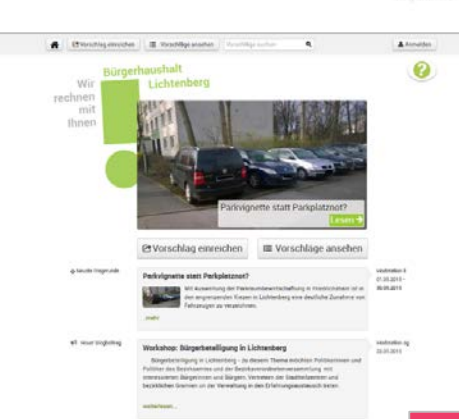
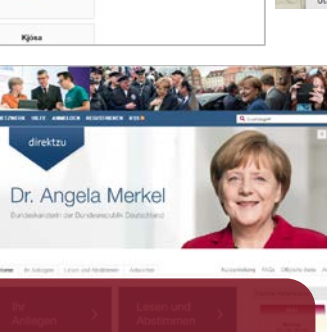
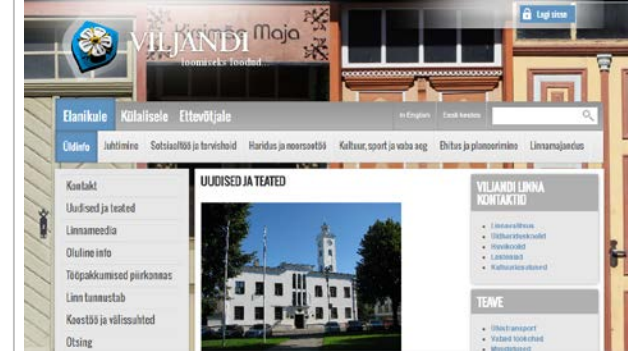
Participate in the DEBATE

Participate in the DEBATE









¿ Motivation ?

Can Gamification be the solution?



## Field study 1

Game trial

- Volunteer sampling
- 9 participants (3f, 6m)
- Time frame: late summer



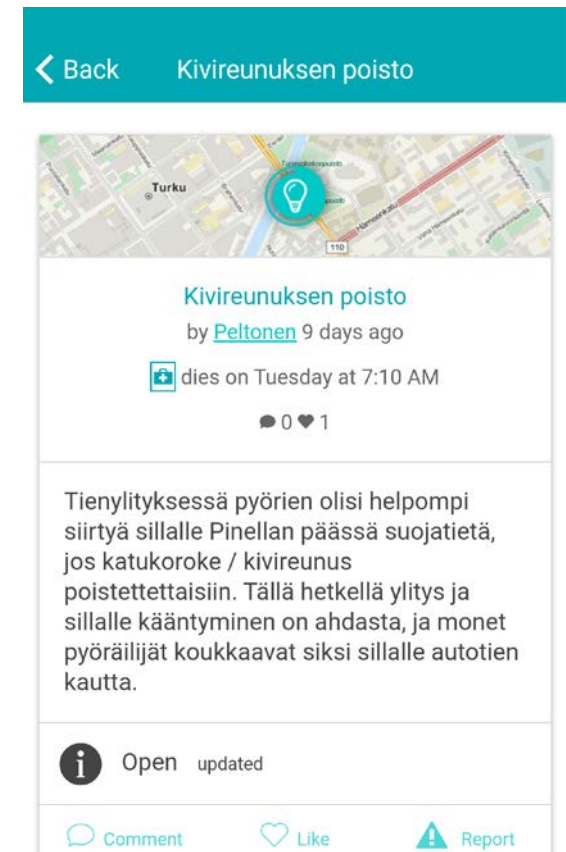
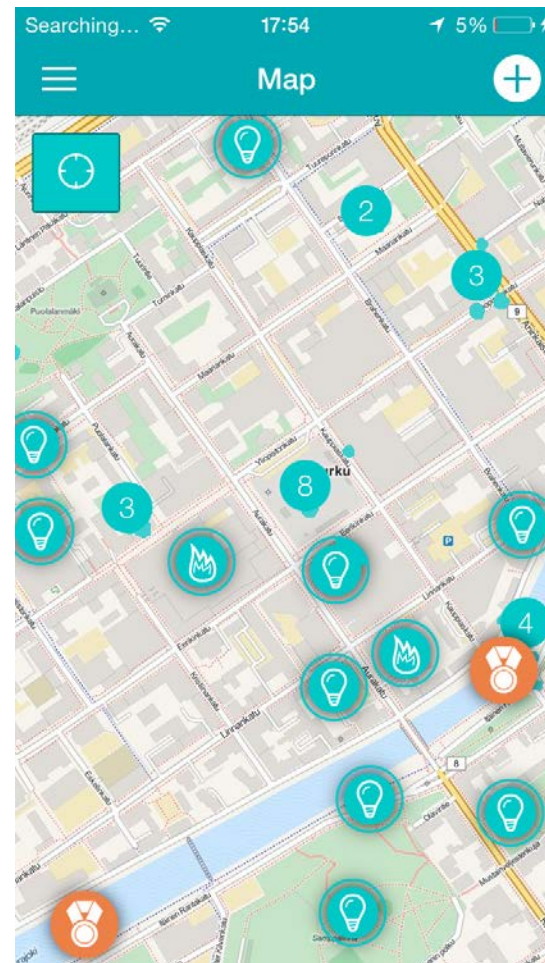
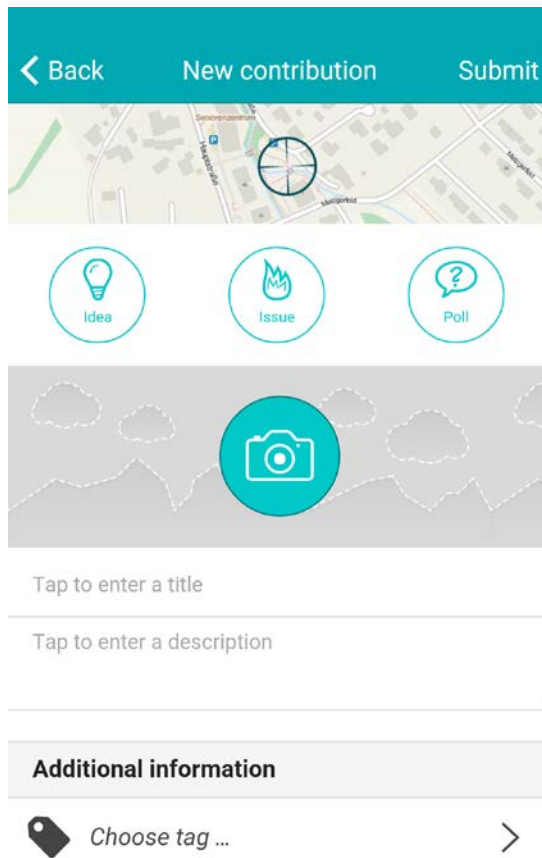
## Field study 2

Non-Game trial

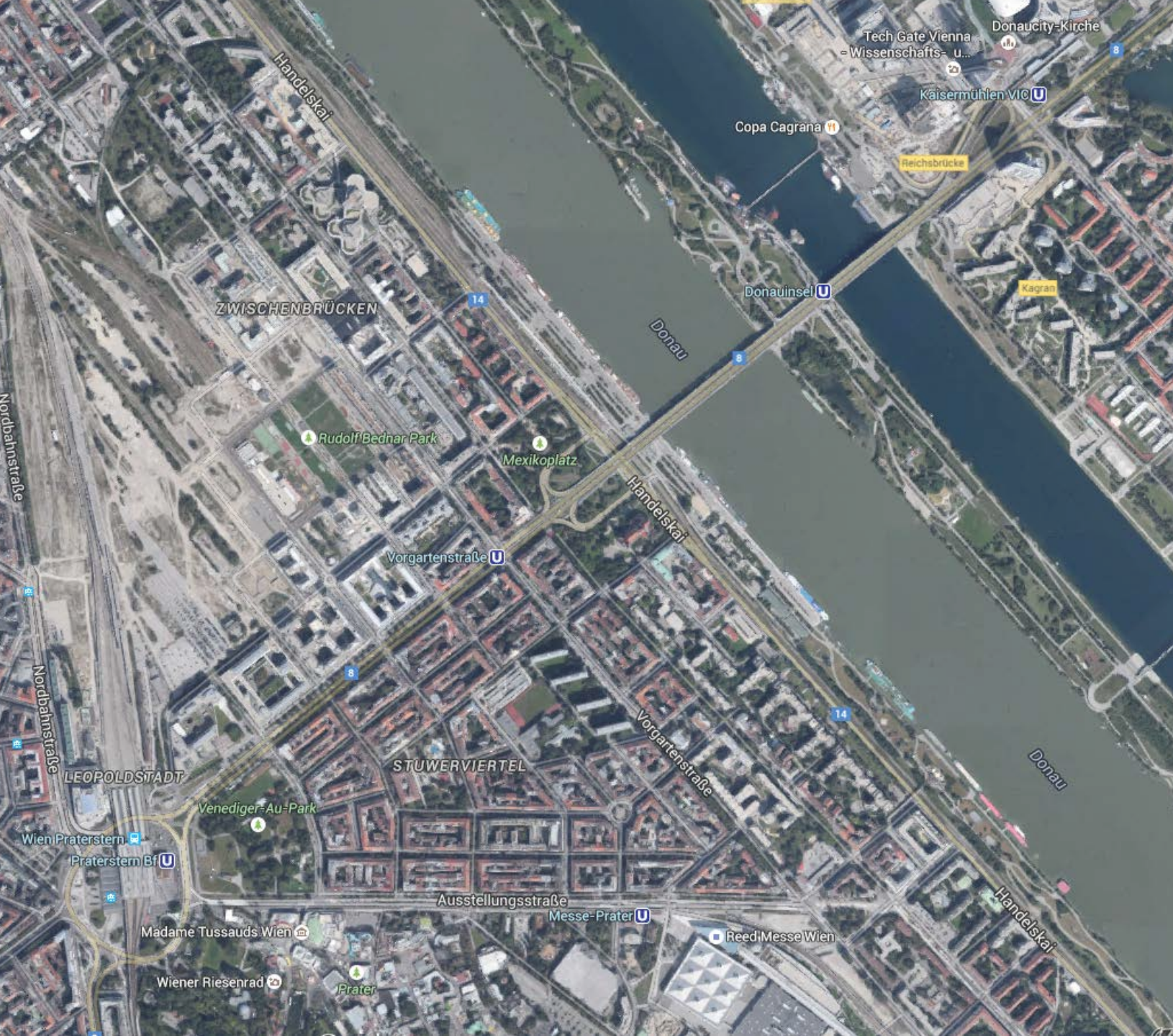
- Volunteer sampling
- 11 participants (5f, 6m)
- Time frame: late winter

# The prototype

## Some Screenshots



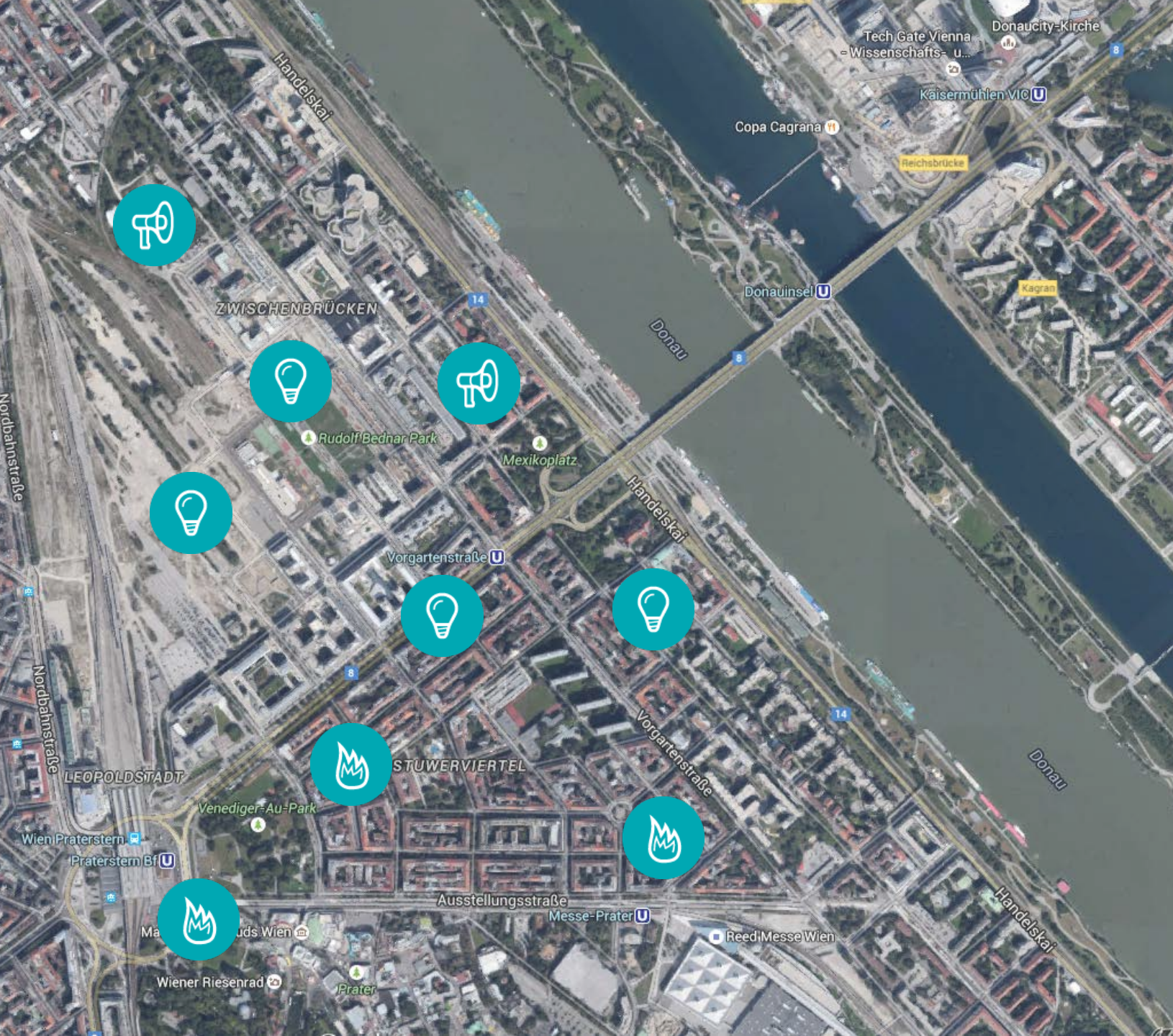




# Study setup







## Study setup



# Game Elements

TitiErtio

City official

1800m<sup>2</sup>

participated with

1

+

Contribution

4

Comments

5

Votes

since 04/21/2015

Ranking

11	Kangasniemi	1913m <sup>2</sup>
12	TimoSuomi	1850m <sup>2</sup>
13	TitiErtio	1800m <sup>2</sup>
14	Peruskipee	1600m <sup>2</sup>
15	Moilanen	1550m <sup>2</sup>

Toplist

1	Uotila	8963m <sup>2</sup>
2	Turkukaupunki	7250m <sup>2</sup>

Social  
 interaction  
 Challenge  
 Time constraint  
 Point system  
 Competition  
 Progress  
 Discovery

Missions

?

Create new mission

+

9 official missions

Turun keskustan viitoitus (Signage in/to Turk...

by City Turkukaupunki a day ago

0 participants

Port Åboan kaavaluonnos

by City Turkukaupunki 21 days ago

1 participant

Illallinen Turun taivaan alla

by City Turkukaupunki a month ago

1 participant

Uusi piste kulttuurikuntoilureitille

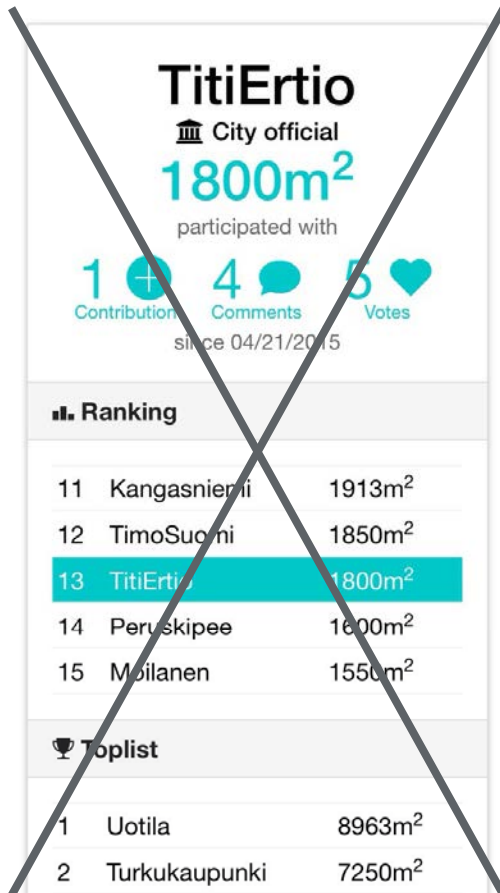
by City TurunVapaa-aikatoimiala a month ago

0 participants

Puuta Itäiselle Rantakadulle Martinsillan ja I In

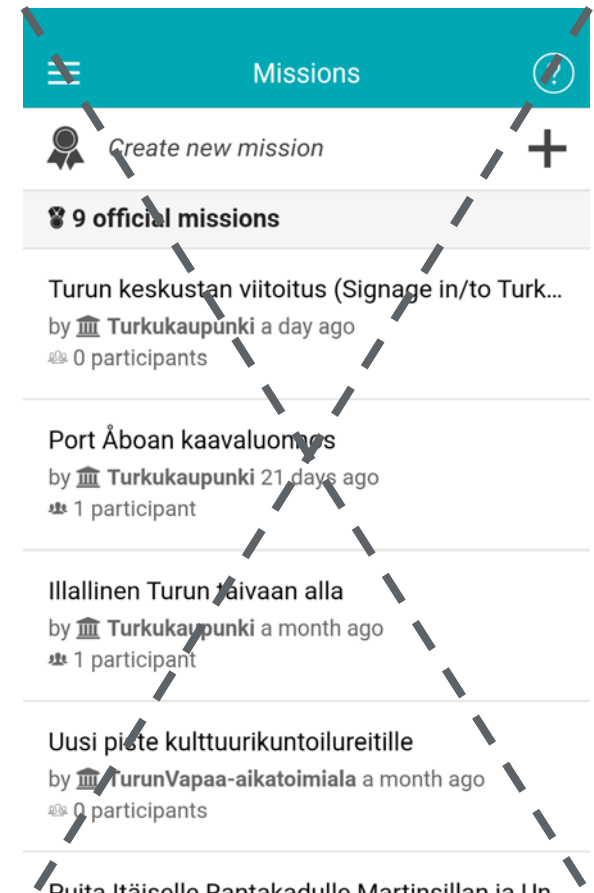


# Game Elements



## Non-Game trial

~~Social interaction~~  
~~Challenge~~  
~~Time constraint~~  
~~Point system~~  
~~Competition~~  
~~Progress~~  
~~Discovery~~





Method, Data, Results

# Analysing participation & motivation

# Mapping of Motivations

## Intrinsic

- „for the sake of it“

## Extrinsic

- For external outcomes

# Mapping of Motivations

## Intrinsic

- „for the sake of it“

## Extrinsic

- For external outcomes

	Social	"Socializing"
Intrinsic	Pleasure	"It was fun"
	Learning	"Discussing relevant issues"
	Reputation	"Making others aware of a problem"
Extrinsic	Institutional	"I believe my post has an impact"
	Personal	"Voicing my opinion"
	Gaming	"I wanted to succeed in the game"

**Table 2.** Framework for assessing motivational factors; survey items in third column.



# Results

## Motivations

		Game trial	Non-Game trial
<i>Intrinsic</i>	Social	2.11 (0.78)	2.64 (1.21)
	Pleasure	2.89 (1.05)	4.45 (0.69)
	Learning	3.78 (0.67)	3.64 (0.92)
<i>Extrinsic</i>	Reputation	4.33 (0.71)	4.00 (0.89)
	Institutional	3.56 (0.88)	3.82 (0.98)
	Personal	4.22 (0.83)	4.00 (1.1)
	Gaming	1.44 (0.73)	/

# Results > Motivations

## Game trial

- Lower intrinsic motivation
- Pleasure significantly less relevant
- Most relevant: reputation & personal
  
- Succeeding in the game was not relevant for participants

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## Results > Motivations

### Game trial

- Lower intrinsic motivation
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### Non-Game trial

- Lower intrinsic motivation
- Pleasure most important aspect
- Most relevant: pleasure, personal, reputation

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- Pleasure most important aspect
- Most relevant: pleasure, personal, reputation

### Overall

- Compared with Game trial, higher intrinsic motivation in the Non-Game trial
- Socializing least important factor



# Level of participation

Participation

= quantity of involvement

Engagement

= quality of involvement

## Level of participation



Participation

= quantity of involvement

Engagement

= quality of involvement

Which motivations influence participation?

# Levels of participation

## Activity count (AC)

- Number of contributions & comments posted per user
- Excluding likes

$$AC = \text{pencil icon} + \text{speech bubble icon} - \text{thumbs up icon with X}$$

# Results > Levels of participation

Activity count (AC)



Game trial

- AC total: 138 \*
- AC Av: 17.3

Non-Game trial

- AC total: 97
- AC Av: 8.8



## Results > Levels of participation

Activity count (AC)



Game trial

- AC total: 138 \*
- AC Av: 17.3

Non-Game trial

- AC total: 97
- AC Av: 8.8

➤ Gamification significantly increased participation

# Which motivation influences participation?

- Does any (single) motivation predict the AC?

Intrinsic	Social	“Socializing”
	Pleasure	“It was fun”
	Learning	“Discussing relevant issues”
Extrinsic	Reputation	“Making others aware of a problem”
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# Which motivation influences participation?

- Does any (single) motivation predict the AC?

★ Game trial

Intrinsic	Social		“Socializing”
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# Which motivation influences participation?

- Does any (single) motivation predict the AC?

- ★ Game trial
- ☆ Non-Game trial

Intrinsic	Social			“Socializing”
	Pleasure			“It was fun”
	Learning	☆		“Discussing relevant issues”
Extrinsic	Reputation	☆	★	“Making others aware of a problem”
	Institutional			“I believe my post has an impact”
	Personal			“Voicing my opinion”
	Gaming			“I wanted to succeed in the game”



# Which motivation influences participation?

- ★ Non-Game trial
- ★ Game trial

	Game trial	Non-Game trial
Intrinsic	★	
Extrinsic		

# Do motivators influence other motivators?

- ★ Non-Game trial
- ★ Game trial

	Social	Pleasure	Learning	Reputation	Institutional	Personal
Social						★
Pleasure						
Learning						
Reputation						★
Institutional						★
Personal						

# Summary

- Strongest motivations
  - Making others aware of issues/ideas
  - Voicing one's opinion
- Having one's voice heard most important in e-participation
  
- Gamification increased participation
  - Gaming was not particularly relevant
  - Intrinsic motivators influenced participation
  - Intrinsic motivation was higher in the Non-Game trial

## Take home messages

- Gamification can increase level of participation.
- Fun can not only derived from gaming (= game elements), but also when engaging in public participation.
- Intrinsic motivation important for level of participation.



## Take home messages

- Gamification can increase level of participation with content maintaining its relevance.
- Fun can not only derived from gaming (= game elements), but also when engaging in public participation.
- Intrinsic motivation important for level of participation

*While game aspects were not important for motivation,  
they did lead to higher participation.*

# Thanks for listening!



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🐦 @erdbeersarah